

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

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VOL. 89

No. 5



"... the Christian minister. No one should know what the Book means better than he. His daily study of it, his effort to direct his own life by it, should make him vividly aware of its power"

During 1943 the Society—

—distributed more New Testaments—2,645,879—in the United States than in any preceding year;

—distributed to the armed forces in all branches of the service 48,193 Bibles, 1,820,733 Testaments, and 364,880 Gospel portions;

—furnished for lifeboats and life rafts of the Navy and the Merchant Marine, and for rubber rafts of the Navy airplanes and Flying Fortresses, for men adrift at sea, over 40,000 New Testaments in waterproof containers;

—put in process, published, and issued from the Bible House in New York for domestic and foreign distribution 12,277,387 volumes of Scripture, exceeding by 49 percent that of any other year;

—issued Scriptures for distribution in Europe and America in thirty-eight languages for prisoners of war—American, British, French, German, Italian, Russian, Polish, and many more;

—saw its work cut off in Thailand, the Philippines, Bulgaria, and Greece, and in much of China, but rejoiced at valiant work in Free China and an increased circulation in Latin America;

—distributed 9,070 embossed volumes and talking-book records for the blind, surpassing that of any year in 109 years of service;

—received for its regular work 96,371 gifts from individuals in the amount of \$270,499. The total of these gifts exceeded the largest previous year by more than 30 percent;

—received from the churches for its regular work \$240,578—an increase of 44 percent over the gifts of 1942, and the largest total from this source since 1924;

—received from all sources for its War Emergency Fund, apart from gifts to its regular work, \$298,962—an increase of 48 percent over the gifts of 1942;

—received a budget income of \$869,328 for its regular work, which exceeded by 20 percent the largest previous income in the Society's history;

—and yet had to leave unmet more opportunities for the expansion of the program of world-wide Scripture distribution than in any previous year.

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution of the Holy Scriptures

Volume 89

May 1944

Number 5

The Men behind the Book on the Pulpit

THIS editorial is addressed to them—to the more than a hundred thousand of them—who each week stand behind that Book and face the gathered congregation and, beyond it, the world.

To many thousands of them who, as donors and annuitants, are contributors, the Society extends its deep thanks. To their preaching of the Word to the people of their parish they are adding a personal share in sending the Book to multitudes over all the earth.

To thousands more who, with these, faithfully help people to see the need of mankind for the life-bringing Word and the Christian privilege of helping to meet that need by deed and gift, the Society is also deeply grateful. Every element in the churches' missionary and benevolent programs is a factor in this—sound missionary education, regular and inspiring every-member canvass, competent service by committees and treasurers, prompt remittances, a steady flow of information. But none of these excels the influence of the pastor, his conviction and his action. We know well that no small part of the Society's income, both from churches and individuals, is due to the inspiration of pastoral leadership.

Surely, if anyone understands the basic task in which the Society is engaged, it should be the Christian minister. No one should know better than he what the Book means in life. His daily study of it, his effort to guide his people by it, his effort to direct his own life by it, should make him vividly aware of its power. Some, perhaps, comprehend it only as a book for homiletical and liturgical use. But many more have seen it in action. They have traced its influence on the families that read it in family worship; they have seen its pages bring conviction and repentance to the sinner; they have seen childhood flower into clear-eyed Christian youth, because its ideals and its atmosphere were about the growing child; they have watched its words bring

comfort to the dying and to their loved ones. With conviction of its power, they have put it in the hands of their young men and women who have gone to war. They regard their whole ministry as the sowing of the seed of the message of this Book in human lives. As they thus sow it, they see the living Christ moving forward among men; they see His kingdom come.

To the reinforcement and extension of just such service by devoted disciples of Christ, this Society is dedicated. Thousands of churches needing help are aided to get the Bibles and Testaments for their Sunday schools and homes at the lowest possible cost. The "younger" churches in all the great continents and hundreds of the islands look to the Society and its allies for supplies of Scriptures. Hundreds of American servicemen in little-known parts of the world have had Bibles shown to them by smiling, helpful natives, and in the Bibles has been the imprint of this Society. And steadily, at home and abroad, through pastors, missionaries, Christian workers, consecrated volunteers, and its own staff, the Society is bringing the Word of God every year, not only to churches and church constituencies, but to tens and hundreds of thousands of people who do not have the Bible.

One such year's work is depicted in this issue—material of high religious and missionary value in a minister's work and among his people. It tells of achievements, yet it echoes with the calls for Scriptures still unprovided; for never before have the demands upon the Society been so great. All over the world stricken churches and people ask for aid—and at the top of the list, second only to their need of love and understanding, is the Bible.

It is probably a fair estimate that half of the churches in the United States take no share, and many more only a negligible share, in such distribution of the Scriptures. To the pastors of those churches the Society issues a call for help.

WAR EMERGENCY

"CAN you wait for the Testaments?" said the Chaplain. "Chaplain, I have to. I have orders not to pack these liferafts until a New Testament goes in each one of them."

In desperate circumstances, the spirit of man needs help. In days of war, world war, the desperate, the spiritually hungry, the perplexed, are not a scattered few, but whole groups, classes, populations. In war, countless individuals are so regrouped that the normal channels by which they receive help are blocked; new channels must be found. Somehow, that help which excels all others in its aid to the spirit—the message of the Bible—must be brought to men. The war work of the American Bible Society, through these new channels, has been pouring millions of units of help in the form of Testaments, Gospels, and Bibles.

In 1943, through chaplains in the Army and Navy and the air forces, and other key persons, the Society



Absorbing the truth that makes men free even in war prison camps

sent to men and women in the armed forces and Merchant Marine 48,193 Bibles, 1,254,405 Testaments and 364,880 Gospels without expense to them. This brings the total of such issues during the war to 71,605 Bibles, 2,161,343 New Testaments and 779,470 Gospels. To these again must be added this year the provision of 566,661 additional New Testaments purchased by churches and others for service men and women in their own constituencies. Included in the distribution for the year were 40,000 New Testaments in waterproof envelopes, such as those referred to in the first paragraph.

These Scriptures have been issued, not only to men in camp in the United States, but to hundreds and hundreds of chaplains at overseas addresses all

over the world. Wrote one of them to the Society:

Soldiers do read their Testaments at the oddest times and places, and my supply of them is easily exhausted. I am the division chaplain of this famous combat-tested unit, with its six other Protestant chaplains. I would like you to send 1,200 copies of the New Testament, which I'll allot to my chaplains according to their needs.

Week after week throughout the year, Bibles and Testaments and Gospels in more than a score of languages have gone out from the Geneva, Switzerland, office of the Society to prisoners of war in Germany, France, and Italy. At first concentrated in the large camps, this distribution has now extended out into the smaller work units; and to the Geneva office, in turn, comes a constant flow of letters of gratitude and further requests.

A French prisoner in Germany wrote:

I want especially to thank you for the Scriptures. I read them every day with joy after my work. A visit of the chaplain even once a month has not been granted us; so that the reading of the Word and its study together is our joy and consolation.

During the year the rise in the number of prisoners held on the American continent has been met by the issuance of 14,483 Bibles, 28,425 Testaments, and 33,304 Gospels, principally in German.

No group has sent more grateful expression than the Japanese ministers and other Christian workers in the relocation centers who were supplied with Scriptures both in Japanese and in English.

As the war has progressed, the increasing shortages of Scriptures for the civilian populations in Europe have become more marked. Funds have been provided for the printing and purchase of Scriptures in Geneva, and during the year shipments were made from Geneva to Belgium and France of



French refugees and their last refuge—the Book

French Bibles and Testaments, and of 1,000 German Bibles to Alsace. In addition, printing was under way on 6,000 Malagasy Gospels, 6,000 Bibles and 12,000 Testaments in Polish, and a like quantity in Italian. This small flow of Scriptures is extremely precious, and every book is treasured by those into whose hands they come.

For Scriptures for the personnel of the armed forces in the United States the Society expended



A constant stream of men comes to their chaplains for the Society's pocket Testaments

nearly \$250,000; and for war prisoners and refugees and civilian populations, nearly \$100,000. These and other expenses incidental to the war situation required a total of \$379,374—all outside of the regular budget of the Society. Toward this expense there were received \$126,693 from individuals, \$30,342 from local churches and groups, \$126,778 from denominational emergency funds, and \$15,149 from other sources—making a total receipt of \$298,962. Of the resulting deficit of \$80,412 about \$50,000 was covered in full by the application of a balance of income over expenditure in the regular budget at the end of 1942. The Society is profoundly grateful to all who have helped to make these imperative emergency services possible.

In the current year the requirements promise to be fully as serious and greater in volume. Not only are the requests from the chaplains for Testaments continuing unabated at an average of nearly 90,000 copies a month; but also there is coming from the armed forces a call for whole Bibles, as many men become settled in relatively fixed installations where a personal Bible does not have to be carried in one's pack. It is estimated that 300,000 Bibles, probably more, will be required in 1944 for this alone.

We may also continue to expect an increase in the prisoners of war held on both sides, and a consequent increased demand from that quarter. Publication in Switzerland for civilian populations in occupied areas must be maintained, if only to meet

a part of the current needs among people in more and more desperate circumstances.

Rising ever greater is the urgent necessity for large quantities of Scriptures for the quickest possible restoration and expansion of the religious life of the churches of the occupied areas as soon as they are freed. In country after country in Europe and the Far East, the printing of Scriptures has been stopped or reduced to a mere trickle. The exhaustion of stocks, the destruction of papermaking and printing establishments, and the dispersion of the trained manufacturing personnel will make it impossible for any speedy supply of Scriptures to come from within these countries. As a beginning toward meeting this situation, the American and British Bible Societies are uniting to print in Sweden 105,000 Bibles and 270,000 New Testaments in French, Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Greek, Lettish, Polish, Rumanian, and Serbian. Some additional publication is being undertaken in the United States.

Here is a practical spiritual service of the first rank that the American churches can undertake—a primary requirement toward the restoration of civil and moral life. The ministry of these Scriptures will sustain and fortify hundreds of thousands of persons, who thereby will be better able to help others; to point the way of truth and hope to the discouraged, the disillusioned, the bitter and the rebellious; to restore the spiritual foundations to the life of the world. No sound reconstructive process for these war-torn areas will have deep foundations for the future unless this emergency supply of the Bible can be surely and swiftly prepared.

The Society estimates that, for its war emergency work in 1944, it ought to have \$692,225 over and beyond its regular budget, as follows: Scriptures for personnel of the Army, Navy, and Merchant Marine, \$400,000; for prisoners of war, \$75,000; for emergency publication in Switzerland, \$50,000; for advance publication of Scriptures for occupied areas, \$167,225. Forecasts call for \$610,000 for these purposes in 1945, \$551,250 in 1946 and \$222,500 in 1947. Of what tremendous blessing these sums can be! and yet how small they are against the ability of the Christian people of America to provide them!

But, so difficult is it to get the story across to so many, that the Society bespeaks the aid of every minister and Bible lover in making the facts known to the Christian people of America, and seeking their response.

An Offer

The table of church gifts found on page 76 will be interesting to many and is available in leaflet form in clear type. It will be supplied in quantities on request.

On the Bible Front at Home

by Frank H. Mann

IS THERE a real increase in Bible distribution? or does the increase arise entirely because of special donations of Scriptures by the Society to the men and women in the services? This is a question frequently asked, and here is the answer:

Omitting editions prepared especially for, and donated to, the armed forces, the United States issues of the American Bible Society in 1943 showed an increase of 31.6 percent in Bibles, 314 percent in Testaments and 16.4 percent in Gospels and other portions over the year 1940. The ratios are substantially increased when we add Scriptures donated by the Society to the armed forces.

The distribution of Scriptures in the United States increased from 5,371,293 in 1942—the peak year—to 7,091,430—a new peak—by 1,720,137 volumes.

In spite of the shift of emphasis to the war needs, civilian needs have greatly increased, and have also been met, subject to the unavoidable restrictions of stock shortages, printing complications, and transportation delays.

The building of great defense plants has brought a shifting of populations. Whole new towns have sprung up. These dislocations due to shifting of populations because of war industries have been felt all over the country. One city in which we worked had a church school of over two hundred children meeting in a tent. In a single trailer camp there are 500 children under five years of age.

The churches in various defense communities are making organized efforts to meet the unusual situations which are caused by the influx of population. In one town in Ohio, through a resident chaplain, a canvass was made in one of the low-rent housing projects of the government. In this case every one of the 260 homes in this project was supplied with the Gospel of St. John, and all were invited to church. Eight out of ten families were not connected with any religious group; and very few of those who had previously belonged to churches were now attending. A union Sunday School was opened, and many requests for Gospels to send to the boys of these families have come from these unchurched people who, until a short time before, had apparently had no interest either in the church or the Bible.

The following testimony is from a man in a war plant in Wisconsin:

I have never had possession of a Bible. One lady in the plant where I work gave me a little booklet, which

was called "The Gospel according to St. John." I treasure this little booklet, and would like to have more booklets of different books of the Bible. Please send me an assortment of all the booklets C.O.D.

In the housing projects of an overpopulated Virginia shipbuilding area, a canvass was made by one of the Society's colporteurs. He had been a Fuller brush salesman, and was thoroughly familiar with house-to-house canvassing. A tabulation of his investigations showed that about seventy percent of the persons questioned were occasional readers of the Bible, but only about twenty-five percent of those same people had a Bible or New Testament in their present temporary homes.

A new feature of the Society's work in the United States has been the Bible crusades or Bible emphasis weeks. These are designed to bring to a city an intensive period of promotion of interest in the Bible through addresses in churches, service clubs, and other community organizations, by a group of the Society's staff and by the active cooperation of the ministers and laymen of the city.

In Philadelphia, a special crusade was conducted, having as its purpose the stimulation of daily reading of the Bible. The forty days of Lent were chosen for this emphasis. Forty great chapters of the Bible were printed on a bookmark, and offered free to churches requesting them. The plan struck fire almost at once, and the officers were deluged with requests for the "Forty Great Chapters." Fully 300,000 Philadelphians were reading the Bible every day during Lent. Pastors all over the city testified to the spiritual uplift that came to their churches when the members read God's Word as a daily habit.

Chicago put on a Bible crusade which attracted widespread interest. The mayor of the city proclaimed December 1 to 15 as a period in which the people of Chicago should give attention to the reading and study of their own sacred Scriptures. This particular crusade caused a number of cities in the Northwest areas to carry on crusades of their own.

A very significant ministry in the West has been the service rendered to the Japanese and Japanese-Americans who were evacuated from the Pacific coast. Some 100,000 Japanese have been concentrated in these relocation centers, of which there are ten. Bibles, Testaments, and Portions have been supplied to them in Japanese and English.

These books are very much appreciated, testifies this Japanese pastor from Colorado:

Thank you very much for your letter. Our church deeply appreciates your concern for our spiritual wel-

fare. By the grace of God, our attendance is growing in a very pleasing manner. Every Sunday-school pupil, 400 in all, brings his Bible to the church. It is a wonderful inspiration.

In one city in Virginia a group of women undertook a project of Bible distribution in tourist homes of the city. These homes were visited in person by the ladies, who asked whether the Bibles that were given for the guest rooms would be welcome. One hundred and ten Bibles were thus placed, and the appreciative response was almost unanimous.

One very effective means of circulating the Scriptures has been through surveys made in rural communities in several states. In these surveys the entire county is covered by a house-to-house visitation, with a sale or presentation of Scriptures wherever they are needed and wanted. Most effective work has been done to a limited extent in this field; but due to the difficulties in transportation this has had to be largely suspended for the present.

In many cities the distribution of the Scriptures in the hospitals is a regularly organized feature. In some communities a copy of one of the Gospels, specially imprinted on the back cover as a hospital edition, is placed on the tray of new patients. New Testaments are also available, and Bibles are provided for the hospital libraries.

Thousands of Scriptures are distributed each month, particularly in the large cities, through rescue missions. The American Bible Society makes it its business to see that the Scriptures are available wherever they are needed. A man said recently: "It would be a terrible thing to have people wanting Bibles and not able to get them. What is everybody's business soon becomes nobody's business. It is good to know that there is an established agency that cares."

Jails and prisons are not overlooked in the ministrations of the Word. Testaments are made available in the cells and dormitories. A quantity of Bibles is kept in the libraries for religious services and Bible-study classes.

Recently, a young minister came to get thirty-two Testaments to be used in the Sunday-school class he was teaching in a cell block in the Cook County jail. The next week he was back to get four more Testaments; for he said, "I forgot about the guards, and they insist that they want Testaments."

Alaska, America's "forgotten country," through the misfortune of war has really become known to our nation. Father Bernard Hubbard states, "There on our doorstep lies a land worth more than any nation in continental Europe. It could support 40,000,000 people without being crowded. It would make a nation the size of Norway, Sweden and Denmark, with resources exceeding all three put together. Thousands of American soldiers will settle there when peace comes."



The mayor of Chicago issues a proclamation endorsing the Bible-reading crusade

The amount of work done in this field is not great at the present time, but Alaska will present an important opportunity in the future. Words of genuine appreciation, however, have come from many sources for the books that have been supplied to the scattered areas in this vast country. One missionary writes: "These Eskimo Gospels will leave by airplane to Nome on the top of the world. Imagine the joy that these Gospels will bring to the natives on the Bering Sea."

A card recently received from someone we have never seen is a fitting testimony to the great work of Bible distribution in remote places. It said:

Thanks a million for the Bibles you sent me. Yes, I got the book you sent me for Christmas. Jerry is fine. I go over and read to him sometimes. I read the Bible every night. Tell them thanks a million for the Bibles. Best wishes.

Thousands fervently echo: "Thanks a million!"

Scriptures for the Blind

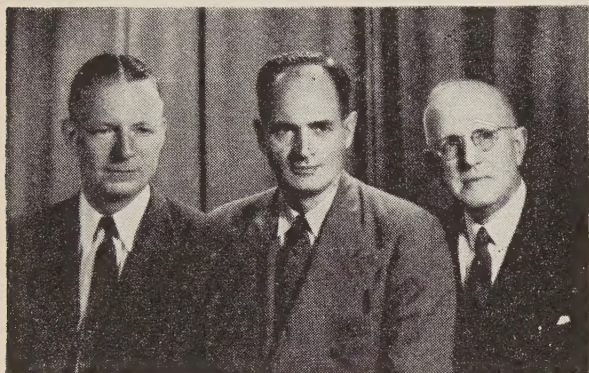
NINETEEN forty-three was the 109th year of the American Bible Society's service to the blind. It was also a record year in distribution. A total of 9,070 volumes were furnished to the sightless. Of these, 3,414 were talking-book records for those who do not read with their fingers. A first edition of the Gospel of St. Matthew in Spanish Braille was one of the achievements of the year.

All of the embossed volumes and talking-book records are furnished by the Society, irrespective of the cost of their production, for the nominal sum of 25 cents per volume, plus postage. The balance is met by gifts of friends of the Bible and the blind.

An increase in the Society's Blind Fund will be necessary in the coming years because of the numbers of men blinded in the war. It is confidently expected that whatever is needed will be supplied by generous donors.

In Many Lands

THE mounting pressures of the war upon every part of the globe have had distressing effect on the distribution of the Scriptures in many countries, just at a time when the need for them was the greatest. Some areas are scenes of battling military forces; others are occupied in a manner restrictive of movement of personnel; centers of printing are blocked off from supplies of materials and, in turn, from areas in dire need of the Scriptures.



They offer the Bible to over one-fourth of the world's people. The Society's Secretaries for Brazil (Dr. Turner), China (Dr. Mortensen), Argentina (Mr. Penzotti)

Transportation is often lacking or overburdened. Staffs are beleaguered, interned, oppressed by inflationary prices. Yet, in the face of such difficulties, heroic work has been done. Much more than could reasonably be expected has been achieved.

In two areas—Thailand and the Philippines—the work is believed to have stopped completely. In the former, the work was closed in 1942, and no word has been received since. From the latter, some word has come by repatriated Americans. For a time the Bible House was kept open, first by the Filipino staff, then with a resident Japanese pastor as supervisor. Finally, it was closed and sealed, but not before Japanese military authorities had removed some materials—possibly, paper and metal plates. Mr. and Mrs. Fonger and their son Burton were for a time free in Manila, but have now been interned for a number of months. At last reports they were well.

In China, the picture is twofold. From the occupied area occasional letters and repatriated missionaries have brought the word that the Chinese committees which took over after Pearl Harbor have been carrying on. Bishop E. S. Yü, a devoted friend of the work, has been giving regular time to the supervision of the Shanghai office. Some sales have been maintained, but publication is very difficult.

In Peiping part of the Bible House has been rented to pay the salaries of the staff. The stock is practically exhausted. The building serves as a valuable center for the religious life of the community. The work in Hankow has also been skilfully maintained by Dr. Huang; the office was rented for a most helpful financial return. The stock was separated and located in several private homes and other places, so that it escaped the confiscation and destruction that came to other supplies of Christian literature. The most distressing feature of the year has been the internment of Mr. and Mrs. Hudspeth and Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs in Shanghai. Mr. Hudspeth underwent a period of very unhappy imprisonment in the notorious Bridge House, but is reported to have regained his health and to be rendering much fine service to his comrades in internment.

In Free China the closing of the Burma Road blocked off an important avenue of supply. Fortunately, the five tons of Scriptures brought up the road by Mr. J. C. F. Robertson's skill and energy ahead of the invading Japanese were of great value through many months. Arrangements were made for printing in several cities, though much hampered by paper shortage, transportation difficulties and inflated costs. A considerable quantity of Gospels has been issued to wounded soldiers, and some colportage has been revived. The Bible House in Chungking, which was damaged by bombing, has been put in order, and Mr. Lin, stationed there, and Mr. Rao in Kunming, have kept the salesrooms open. Mr. Wong has reopened the work in southeast China with much energy, among other things bringing into Free China Scriptures from Canton and Hongkong. Even at inflationary prices, though only five or six times previous prices, the demand continues. Circulation figures for the year are consequently small. Preparations were made to print 10,000 Chinese Bibles in India. Rev. Dr. Ralph Mortensen was elected the Society's Secretary for China, and is en route to the field to join Mr. Robertson. Generalissimo and Madame Chiang Kai-shek were graciously pleased to accept honorary life membership in the Society; and Madame Chiang received the Society's officers while she was in New York.

In the Near East, there is no information from Bulgaria and Greece. It is judged that little can be done in Bulgaria and less in Greece. A new edition of the New Testament was brought out in Turkey; but there, as well as in Syria and Irak, circulation fell off, owing to great difficulty in obtaining supplies and the limitations on colportage. The total was nevertheless 32,694 copies, about two thirds of that of the year before. In Palestine, Egypt, Arabia,

and the Sudan, conditions were similar. Special efforts were made to get supplies through for the armies of the Middle East.

The one field which seemed wide open was Latin America, where it was hoped increased resources would allow a more adequate response to the known large demand. But here the great withdrawals of shipping for war purposes and the loading of what was left with war materials kept hundreds and hundreds of cases of books waiting endlessly. Even nearby Puerto Rico had to wait months for the replacement of a large shipment lost at sea. Every Agency had many weeks when its shelves and storerooms were empty. Nevertheless, enough was received to make a total circulation of 1,921,128, an increase of 580,532 more than in 1942. The Upper Andes Agency exceeded its 1942 circulation, but the principal increase was in Mexico, where the continuance of the house-to-house canvass of the Salvation Army brought a total circulation of 1,114,470 Gos-

pels. At the end of the year, in the effort to meet the situation, provision was made for printing Gospels and Testaments in considerable quantity in Argentina and Brazil.

African supplies were hindered by the shipping situation, 2,000 Bulu Testaments being lost at sea. A number of packages, however, were dispatched by mail to both East and West Africa. In Liberia, a new center of distribution has been established by arrangement with Rev. Maurice E. Persons of the College of West Africa.

In all these areas the dammed up demand for Scriptures is very large, and as soon as unhindered communication is established, these demands will flood in upon the Society. Already some reserves from current appropriations have been set up for that time; but they will be inadequate, unless accompanied by steadily rising regular support for the work in these fields. There is a tremendous opportunity coming, which must be seized to the full.

Translation and Revision—1943

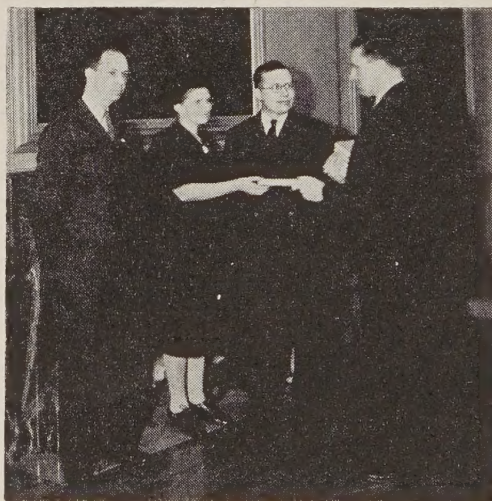
by Margaret T. Hills

DID you ever hear of the Yipounou, the Yisan-gou, the Ancash, or the Kijita languages?

In the midst of the confusion and disruption of peoples and processes caused by this global war, slowly and quietly, but not easily, missionary translators were working to bring more of God's Word to peoples who have little or nothing in a language they can understand. Missionaries at home on furlough devote precious hours, in the midst of "itinerating" and health reclaiming, to proofreading or the ironing out of difficult wrinkles marring the smoothness and accuracy of a translation before it is ready for the printer. Correspondence with mission fields is slow and uncertain; but far at the end of lines of communication are patient missionaries, usually working with reduced staffs and in the loneliness of separation from loved ones, probing the intricacies of the speech and idiom of men who know only evil spirits and fear, to find words and expressions through which they may bring the words of Light and Salvation.

Of particular interest are the Guajira and Haitian Creole translations, both of which went to the printer at the end of the year. The former is spoken by some 25,000 Indians on the Guajira peninsula in eastern Colombia, among whom Mr. and Mrs. William E. Thompson, of the South American Indian Mission, are working. This translation of St. Mark will be the first part of the Bible in their language. Some three million natives of Haiti, who speak a dialect or "patois" of French, with some

African borrowings, have not learned to read because the French system of writing is so remote from



Secretary Betts presents to Rev. and Mrs. Frank E. Manning, the translators, and Mr. J. Arthur Springer, the first copy of the Kijita New Testament

the sound of their own speech. Inspired and stimulated by Dr. Frank C. Laubach's campaign for world literacy, several missionaries have been at work preparing parts of the Scriptures for these folks. Great hopes are held for the use of these books in connection with the literacy movement now developing in Haiti.

In Guatemala there are, among other large Indian groups, half a million Quiché Indians who do not read Spanish with any ease or satisfaction, if they read at all. For these, Rev. and Mrs. Paul Burgess, of the Presbyterian Mission, have labored for years on a translation of the New Testament in their own tongue. This was sent the printer toward the end of the year.

In Mexico, various difficulties concerning printers and type have held up the publication of the Tarascan and Mazateco Gospels. But it is hoped that these are now solved, and that publication can proceed. Meanwhile Gospels in other dialects of the Mexican Indians have been examined in New York, and others are being worked over on the field, particularly by young men and women of the Wycliffe Bible Translators. Hundreds of thousands of the Indians of the mountains and jungles of Mexico can find their way to God only if he speaks to them in their mother tongue.

For the huge group of Quechua Indians in the Andes of Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia translations are in process, the entire New Testament having been completed in Peruvian Quechua, and St. John and the Acts in Ancash. However, publication of all these was delayed in the hope of reaching a more satisfactory solution on some problems connected with the writing of the language. For this purpose a conference of missionaries from the various areas was arranged for the first week of 1944. This was made the more urgent by Dr. Laubach's visits and the prospect of literacy campaigns. These tremendous numbers of new readers will be hungry for reading matter, and ready to be greatly affected by what they read.

A translation of the Gospels and Acts in Yipounou for natives of Gaboon, French Equatorial Af-

rica, was also examined during the year. These people have only a few mimeographed portions of the gospel at present. The translation has been prepared by the Rev. H. L. Pierson and his son, with a native helper. We are sad to report the death, early in 1944, of Mr. Pierson.

The new Scriptures that actually came from the press during 1943, in addition to the Conob St. John mentioned in last year's report, were both published for the British and Foreign Bible Society as part of our Society's War Emergency program. The Jita (Kijita) New Testament was the first Testament for some 100,000 people who live along the shores of Lake Victoria, in Tanganyika, East Africa. This translation is the work of members of the Africa Inland Mission and the Seventh Day Adventists, and was seen through the press by the Reverend Frank E. Manning. Mr. Manning took three cases of the Testaments with him as personal baggage when he returned to Africa in the spring, thus making it possible for the books to reach their readers much sooner than if they had had to depend on freight. Also at the request of the British Society, the Book of Acts was first published in the commercial Kikongo, or Kituba, a trade language of the southwestern Belgian Congo. Several Gospels have already appeared in the tongue. This was translated by workers of the Congo Gospel Mission, and seen through the press by Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Brower.

When the war is over and communication can be more rapid, it is expected that an increase in the number of new translations and revisions will take place, requiring increased work in examination and publication. America's new knowledge of little known corners of the world should increase interest in this.

America's Unique Opportunity

THE opportunities among the Negro population of this country provide a challenge that calls for special organization under Negro leadership. Four devoted, able Negro Secretaries now serve this constituency.

The circulation of Scriptures among the Negroes by this Agency, known as the "Haven Memorial Agency," was more than 220,000 volumes last year. But that is not enough. A much more extensive program must be undertaken. New plans call for the appointment of two new Secretaries and the release of Dr. D. H. Stanton, the oldest in service, to act as supervising director of the whole program.

This program calls for a new interest on the part of the Christian public, and a new outpouring of gifts to meet the present unique opportunities.

With the Negro's deep, religious faith as a foundation, the organized expression of his religion has leaped forward. The 700 churches of seventy years ago have become some 43,000; their communicants have increased from 600,000 to nearly 5,000,000; their Sunday-school pupils, from 50,000 to 2,200,000; church property, from a million and a half dollars to over two hundred million dollars.

The new generation of Negroes must be guided in the gospel. Other mighty forces—not all good—are bidding for their allegiance. What is now America's unique opportunity might become a stern problem—and no longer an opportunity at all.

The Bible must play an important role in meeting the present challenge. The American Bible Society stands ready to supply the Book.

The Budget and the Church

Ministers and Church Officers Please Take Notice!

In a missionary organization such as the American Bible Society, the larger part of its budget should be made up of gifts from living donors. Any organization dependent too largely upon income from invested funds will tend to become stagnant, and certainly any new income for a growing program must come from living donors. In the case of

the American Bible Society, this new income should come mainly from the churches.

With this thesis in mind, we have presented on the opposite page a statement of the gifts from churches during the year 1943. And with the same theory in mind, we present herewith a statement of our needs as we see them for the next four years.

REGULAR BUDGET

Our Regular Budget Projected for the Next Four Years

	1944	1945	1946	1947
1. Projected Budget for regular work.....	\$923,000	\$1,009,000	\$1,143,000	\$1,319,000
(a) Estimated income from: Investments, Legacies, Annuities, Miscellaneous (more or less fixed).....	400,885	400,885	400,885	400,885
(b) Required income from living donors: Churches, Individuals, Auxiliary Soci- ties	522,115	608,115	742,115	918,115
2. Increase needed to balance increased budget		86,000	134,000	176,000
3. Percentage of Increase needed from living donors for increased budget.....		16.4%	21.6%	23.7%

WAR EMERGENCY BUDGET

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
1943 Budget level.....	\$302,500	\$302,500	\$302,500	\$302,500	\$302,500
Estimated needs for next four years...		692,225	610,000	551,250	222,500
Increase over 1943 level.....		389,725	307,500	248,750	none
Percentage increase over 1943 level....		128%	101%	82%	none

Our budget for the duration, as shown above, is made up of two parts, namely, our *Regular Budget* which must be maintained without interruption insofar as possible; and our *War Emergency Budget* which requires immediate right of way.

The Regular Budget because of new and insistent demands should be on an increasing scale, while the War Emergency Budget should tend to decrease and in our computations does decrease.

When we realize that we must look to the Churches to meet the major part of the increases in these two budgets, then the significance of the fig-

ures on the opposite page becomes more apparent and more important.

It is our earnest hope that all ministers will give careful study to the figures of their own denominations and bring these great needs to the attention of their official boards and to their congregations. In our tabulations, we have reduced these denominational gifts to amounts per church and amounts per 1,000 members. The rate per member on the average is very low and would this year be about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cent per member. For other striking comparisons see the back cover.

Receipts from the Churches under Various Methods

WAR EMERGENCY FUND RECEIPTS		Denominations	†No. Members	†No. Churches	Contributions for Regular Work 1943			1942	
Year 1943	Year 1942				Per 1,000 Members	Per Church	Total		
Group I. In official budgets on a percentage basis									
\$ 197	\$ 135	Advent Christian	1.0%	29,560	427	\$13.74	\$0.95	\$ 406	\$ 304
332*	181*	Lutheran, United	.25	1,223,222	4,046	6.65	2.04	8,134	4,927
26,060	15,745	Methodist	1.2	5,976,681	45,206	10.49	1.48	62,713	51,813
9,455	10,188	Presbyterian, U. S. A.	.8	1,906,807	8,511	20.45	4.58	39,013	30,191
8,499	1,121	Presbyterian, U. S.	1.0	508,225	3,500	30.49	4.42	15,492	12,499
330	27	Presbyterian, Cumb.	1.0	50,814	1,088	10.59	.46	540	263
2,636	1,259	Reformed in America	1.0	163,835	727	42.37	9.56	6,949	5,360
3,900	595	United Brethren	.158	382,804	2,788	3.30	.45	1,270	1,416
Group II. In official budgets on definite grant									
2,040	2,841	Adventist—7th Day		169,185	2,491	11.14	.75	1,883	1,052
653	111	Brethren		175,416	1,019	5.3	.91	928	462
447	144	Christian Missionary Alliance		31,458	510	44.74	2.77	1,415	355
1,794	311	Congregational Christian		1,052,701	5,827	3.77	.68	3,973	3,362
306*	176*	Lutheran, American		388,072	1,826	10.04	2.12	3,897	1,659
234*	115*	Lutheran, Norwegian		399,732	2,477	12.68	2.04	5,073	4,625
6	3	Methodist Episc. Zion, African		332,376	2,252	3.26	.48	1,085	501
239	108	Nazarene		180,243	2,898	21.22	1.31	3,820	2,450
81	7	Wesleyan Methodist Connection		27,160	779	35.81	1.24	967	200
Group III. Officially designated for annual offering									
100	98	Christian Reformed		69,980	306	68.81	15.74	4,817	3,907
402	197	Evangelical		238,379	1,983	4.65	.55	1,108	1,441
57*	22*	Lutheran, Augustana		267,172	1,126	17.00	.4	4,514	2,869
0*		Lutheran, Free		36,847	385	7.35	.70	271	
51	3	Moravians, North and South		30,048	142	39.70	8.38	1,191	1,059
1	30	Presbyterian, Assoc. Ref.		20,570	145	50.77	7.17	1,041	645
2,597	798	Presbyterian, United		171,652	850	24.97	5.04	4,291	3,962
93	122	Presbyterian, Reformed (Cov.)		6,065	84	348.83	24.90	2,093	1,090
Group IV. Miscellaneous methods, chiefly endorsing the Society and urging liberality by the churches									
16,286	7,925	Assemblies of God		222,730	4,840	7.28	.33	1,619	367
17,958	8,616	Baptist, Northern		1,461,027	7,365	4.77	.94	6,977	4,932
	22	Baptist, 7-Day		6,765	66	1.90	3.47	129	73
34,829	22,000	Baptist, Southern		5,098,772	25,737	3.64	.72	18,578	3,694
5		Baptist, Natl. Conv. Inc.		3,619,451	24,575	.105	.015	383	212
216	2	{ Church of God (Tenn.) Church of God (Ind.) Churches of God }		177,174	3,513	2.15	.109	382	365
3,075	869	Disciples of Christ		1,489,995	7,919	2.91	.54	4,345	2,727
	8	Evangelical Congregational		24,560	160	1.11	1.706	273	102
2,449	1,039	Evangelical and Reformed		596,658	2,850	4.90	1.03	2,928	1,609
	58	Friends		58,258	508	1.76	2.05	104	69
810	144	Lutheran, Missouri		930,791	4,326	4.26	.91	3,966	1,766
24		Lutheran, Wisconsin		188,447	745	.39	.09	73	123
293	91	Mennonites		50,000	.445	47.70	5.36	2,385	1,714
6	2	Methodist Episc., African		667,035	7,265	3.62	.33	2,420	1,941
		Methodist Episc., Colored		320,000	4,200	1.98	.15	636	389
236	903	Methodist, Free		42,645	1,295	12.85	.42	548	338
5	5	Methodist, Primitive		12,105	88	51.66	7.04	620	284
7,517	1,234	Protestant Episcopal		1,467,599	7,685	2.75	.52	4,032	1,723
7,400	3,098	Miscellaneous						13,296	7,677
5,500	4,500	National Lutheran Council (War Emergency)							
\$157,119	\$85,788	TOTALS		30,273,016	194,915			\$240,578	\$166,517

*Also give through National Lutheran Council, as shown above.

†From 1943 Year Book of American Churches, membership 13 years of age and over.

We believe Church Boards and individuals could easily be challenged to a greater response to so basic a program as is represented by Bible distribution in hundreds of languages to the peoples of the world. Let us hope that many a minister will take his responsibility in this matter very seriously and that he will confront his people with the inadequacy of their response as shown by the figures for his denomination. And let no church think because it has

done better than the average of its denomination, that it has done too much or even enough, for the needs of the world are much greater than our greatest goal has ever yet encompassed.

In spite of this exhortation to do more and yet more, we are truly grateful for the fine response of the churches to our appeals to meet the expanding needs, in connection both with our regular budget and our war emergency budget.

Publishing the Bible in Wartime

by Gilbert Darlington

THE year 1943 was a year of great difficulties, but of great achievements, in the production of the Scriptures. Total issues from the Bible House in New York were greater than in any preceding year; but at the end of the year the Society's stock of many of its books—especially those imported from abroad—was down to the lowest quantity in over a generation.

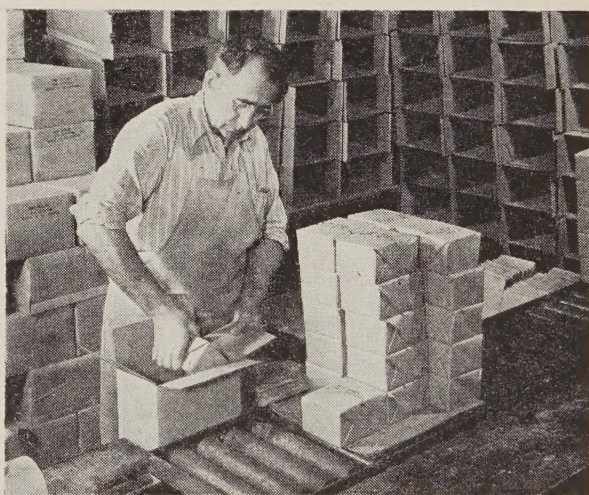
Since the war began, some of the printing and binding firms that do the Society's work have lost about one third of their personnel to the armed forces. An additional one third has been attracted away from printing and binding to various essential war industries. During 1943, India paper, morocco leather and imitation leather were very hard to obtain, and the book-printing industry operated on a paper base of 90 percent of the paper that was used in 1942. It also became very difficult to obtain gold edges and hand indexing. The Society's chief interest was to maintain as ample a supply as possible of paper and cloth-bound Scriptures for missionary distribution and for the armed forces of our country. This the Society was able to do, in spite of many delays and disappointments as far as its limited paper base allowed. The increased issues of these paper and cloth bound books during 1943 is a result of the careful preparation and planning that took place during 1942.

The primary publication problem of 1943 was to secure a sufficient supply of paper. Every effort was made to stretch the Society's paper base to cover as many copies of the Scriptures as was possible. To do this, smaller-sized books on thinner paper were favored at the expense of larger and heavier volumes. As practically all of the Society's Scriptures are printed on lightweight paper, it was not possible to save a great deal of paper, even by eliminating certain books entirely, and by dropping certain expensive bindings.

On top of the large domestic demand in the United States, there also arose a tremendous demand for Scriptures for our armed forces; for Italian, German and Japanese prisoners of war and internees in the United States; for Scriptures for our Allies of the United Nations, and for the war-torn areas of the world. An appeal was therefore made in June 1943 to the War Production Board for relief from the provisions of Paper Limitation Order to the amount of 902,555 pounds of paper. This appeal resulted in an award of 143,340 pounds of paper specifically designated for 15,000 Norwegian Bibles, 40,000 Norwegian Testaments, 37,000 German Bi-

bles, 15,000 German Testaments and 50,000 German Testament and Psalms, 10,000 Italian Bibles, and 25,000 Japanese Testaments. These were chiefly for war prisoners in the United States. The Norwegian Scriptures had been ordered by the Norwegian Government-in-Exile.

In order to conserve paper in the United States, the Society forwarded to Brazil a set of papier-maché mats for the Four Gospels in Portuguese and for the Portuguese Brazilian New Testament and Psalms. Similar mats were also sent to Argentina for the New Testament and Four Gospels in the Spanish Valera version. Plans were also made for printing certain new Indian dialects in Mexico.



Packing New Testaments for the armed forces, ten thousand a day, every working-day of the year

The quantity of Scriptures being published in Europe for war prisoners and war sufferers in the occupied nations there was greatly increased, even though the costs were often very much higher than the price paid in the United States for work of a similar quality. In spite of every saving that was made, however, it was necessary during and after September to ration strictly to our own Depositories the Society's popular small English Bibles selling at 40 cents. Orders for other books were also cut down in the attempt to supply some books to many people rather than many books to only a few. Never in recent history has the Society had to cut down or reject so many orders for the Scriptures. These unfilled orders are still on hand.

In November it became apparent that the paper shortage had increased, and that the paper base during 1944 would be reduced to 75 percent of that

for 1942. A careful publication budget was therefore prepared. This indicated that the Society's estimated needs in the United States on a minimum basis would come to 348,250 pounds more than its 1944 quota. This budget was presented to the Advisory Council at its December meeting, and the representatives of thirty-seven denominations that were present unanimously approved of requesting the War Production Board for this additional amount of paper, after transferring the publication of certain Scriptures to Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Switzerland, and Sweden.

It is not possible for the Society to stretch its paper base to produce just as many Scriptures with a reduced amount of paper. Commercial book publishers, who are using much heavier weights of paper, much larger margins and much larger types than are used in the Scriptures, can produce as many books on their 75 percent paper base as they did in 1942, if they will plan their work carefully and reduce the weight of their paper, their margins, and their type sizes sufficiently. Inasmuch as the

great quantities of Scriptures that used to come to the United States from Great Britain are now almost entirely cut off; and inasmuch as the unbound sheets of these books in the United States are now completely gone, there will be a much larger shortage of Bibles in 1944 than there was in 1943. We are confident, however, that the War Production Board will give the Society an additional grant of paper to meet its conservative essential needs during the present war emergency.

The problem of shipping Scriptures that are in stock in the United States to Puerto Rico, Cuba, the Canal Zone, Latin America, and other parts of the world became very acute during the first nine months of the year. After September, however, when the submarine menace was reduced and there were more ships available, many Scriptures that had been on order for one or two years were finally forwarded to the field, where American missionaries and others were anxiously awaiting their arrival. It is a pleasure to report that none of the Society's shipments of Scriptures was lost by enemy action during 1943.



Editorial Comment



BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution of the Holy Scriptures

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to Francis Carr Stifler, Secretary, Bible House, Park Avenue and 57th Street, New York 22



VOL. 89 MAY 1944 No. 5

A Message to Pastors about Universal Bible Sunday

UNIVERSAL Bible Sunday will be observed this year on December 10. We are making a departure from the practices of other years, and are mailing the Bible Sunday material only upon request. This material will be available earlier than usual, and there may be some economy in this change; but there will be an ample supply for all. This material may be ordered at any time, and will be forwarded to you as soon as

it is available—which we hope will be quite soon. If December 10 is not a convenient date for placing special emphasis on the Bible and its distribution and reading, we hope that you will still send for the material for use on some other date which fits in better with your schedule.

We will have available a brochure, a poster, and suitable material for distribution in the pews. We will gladly supply all pastors with ample material free on request. Address: Frank H. Mann, Universal Bible Sunday, 450 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

1,062 Languages

DURING 1943 four new languages were added to the list of those in which some part of the Scriptures has been published, so that the total is now 1,062. These were tentative, mimeographed editions of the Gospel of St. Luke in Yipounou and Yisangou, spoken in French Equatorial Africa; St. John in Walamo, spoken in Ethiopia; and St. Mark and I John in Gunwinggu, a language of the natives of northern Australia. These last two were published by the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Gunwinggu being printed in Sydney.

One of the Bible Society's major interests is the encouragement of the regular use of the Bible. Among the materials prepared to this end are the follow-

ing which are supplied at 15c a hundred: "The Bible in the Home," "The Bible and Youth," "The Bible in the Church School," "Forty Favorite Chapters" (bookmark), and "A New Testament Reading Program." A small brochure designed for a month's reading entitled, "The Devotional Use of the Bible," is supplied at 5c a copy or 12 copies for 50c.

The Bible Society Record is issued every month in the year except June and August and is sent to every contributor of \$1.00 or more to the work of the Society. A special rate of two years for \$1.00 is made for pastors of churches.

Secretary Stifler began his seventh year on the Blue Network on Thursday, June 1, at 12 noon E.W.T. The theme is, "The Changeless Bible." The topics for June and July are: June 1, "The Bible After the War"; June 8, "Bibles and Bombs"; June 15, "Books About the Bible"; June 22, "Putting the Bible to Work"; June 29, "Bibles on My Shelf"; July 6, "The Bible and Russia"; July 13, "The Bible and South America"; July 20, "The Bible and Mexico"; July 27, "The Bible and Japan."

Do you have access to sound or silent picture equipment? The American Bible Society offers two professionally prepared sound and two silent pictures, also a vocafilm lecture, three stereopticon lectures and various other visual aids. Write for titles and terms.

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Rev. G. A. Hobart Sheppard, D.D., 2549 Elm St., Dallas 1, Texas.

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New York City 22—Bible House, Park Ave. and 57th St... New York, New Jersey, Penna., Del., Maryland, D. C., Virginia, W. Va.
Atlanta 3, Georgia—85 Walton St... No. Carolina, So. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tenn., Alabama, Mississippi.
Chicago 1, Illinois—35 E. Wacker Drive... Ohio, Ky., Ind., Ill., Iowa, Mo., Mich., Wis., Minn., N. Dak., S. Dak., Neb., Kan.
Dallas 1, Texas—1914 Main St... Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Colorado, New Mexico.
San Francisco 2, California—224 McAllister St... Wash., Ore., Calif., Nevada, Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Utah, Ariz., Alaska, Hawaii.

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West Indies—Rev. James Innes, Neptuno 629, Havana, Cuba.
Mexico—Sr. H. T. Marroquin, Apartado 1373, Mexico City.
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Chile-Bolivia—Mr. D. C. Brackenridge, Casilla 784, Santiago, Chile

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Bible Lands Agency, South—Mr. H. Athanasian, P. O. Box 724, 62 Sharia Ibrahim Pasha, Cairo, Egypt.

Philippines—Rev. W. H. Fonger, Box 755, Bible House, No. 636 Isaac Peral, Manila.
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China—Rev. W. H. Hudspeth, M.A., Bible House, 58 Hongkong Road, Shanghai.
Japan Bible Society—Mr. T. Tanaka, General Secretary, Bible House, 2 Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan.

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Maine—Rev. Hammond I. Peterson, 19 Pine St., Portland 4.
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Is 1 Cent a Year Too Much to Give?



The British do not think so. They averaged about one cent per person to their Bible Society in 1942.

America averaged in 1942 only $\frac{1}{4}$ of a cent per person to the American Bible Society.

If each person in this country did as well as our British brethren and had given on the average of one cent per person we would have had \$1,350,000 for the American Bible Society in 1942 instead of \$348,816 actually received for the regular budget from living donors that year.

Is there any reason that we shouldn't do as well as our British brethren?

. . . If you are a minister, won't you see that your church does better than average?

. . . If you are a church officer, won't you talk with your church board and minister?

. . . If you are a church member, won't you see that your church gives at least one dollar, even if you have to give it yourself in the name of your church?

For detailed information write for our leaflet "The Churches, The Bible, The World."

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

BIBLE HOUSE, 57th ST. and PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, N. Y.